

FABRIC ROUTER WITH FLIT CACHING

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a fabric router, flits are stored on chip in a first set of rapidly accessible flit buffers, and overflow from the first set of flit buffers is stored in a second set of off-chip
5 flit buffers that are accessed more slowly than the first set. The flit buffers may include a buffer pool accessed through a pointer array or a set associative cache. Flow control between network nodes stops the arrival of new flits while transferring flits between the first set of buffers and the second set of buffers.